TENNESSEE STUDENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION PROGRAMS

| | PROGRAMS | ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS | AWARD FACTS | HOW TO APPLY |
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| | HOPE SCHOLARSHIP | Tennessee residents 1 year prior to application deadline • Must be admitted to and enrolled in at least 6 hours in a HOPE-eligible postsecondary institution within 16 months of graduation from an eligible high school, homeschool or GED program • Minimum 21 ACT (Composite)/980 SAT (Math + Critical Reading ONLY) on a national test date OR 3.0 final weighted GPA for entering freshmen graduating from eligible public or category 1, 2 or 3 private high schools • GED students must have minimum ACT/SAT test scores stated above and 525 on the GED test • Homeschool and non-category 1, 2 or 3 private high school graduates must have minimum ACT/SAT test scores stated above AND must have been enrolled in the school for at least 2 years prior to graduation • RENEWAL CRITERIA: Minimum 2.75 cumulative GPA after 24 and 48 attempted hours. At 72 attempted hours and thereafter, students must maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA or if the cumulative GPA is between 2.75-2.99 and semester GPA of 3.0, then the student must be enrolled full-time and will have their eligibility checked at the end of each semester. Students must maintain satisfactory academic progress AND continuous enrollment. (Students should NEVER drop courses without talking to their financial aid office about how it may impact their HOPE Scholarship eligibility) | Up to \$4,000 per year at an eligible four-year Tennessee post-secondary institution or a two-year institution that offers on-campus housing • Up to \$2,000 at an eligible two-year Tennessee postsecondary institution • Awards to part-time students are prorated • Scholarship is terminated after earning baccalaureate degree OR 5 years have passed from date of initial enrollment at any postsecondary institution - whichever occurs first | Submit Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) after January 1 at www.fafsa.ed.gov • All students MUST apply 9 September 1 for the Fall term or February 1 for the Spring and Summer terms • Early application recommended |
| | GENERAL ASSEMBLY MERIT SCHOLARSHIP | This is a supplement to the HOPE Scholarship; students must be HOPE eligible • Students may receive either General Assembly Merit Scholarship (GAMS) or Aspire Award, but not both • Minimum 29 ACT (Composite)/1280 SAT (Math + Critical Reading ONLY) on a national test date AND 3.75 final weighted GPA for entering freshmen graduating from eligible public or category 1, 2 or 3 private high schools • Homeschool and non-category 1, 2 or 3 private high school graduates must have minimum ACT/SAT test scores stated above AND enroll in 12 college credit hours (minimum 4 courses, excluding P.E.) with a minimum 3.0 GPA at an eligible Tennessee postsecondary institution while enrolled in high school • RENEWAL CRITERIA: Same as HOPE Scholarship | \$1,000 supplement to the HOPE Scholarship • Awards to part-time students are prorated | Same as HOPE Scholarship |
| | ASPIRE AWARD | This is a supplement to the HOPE Scholarship; students must be HOPE eligible • Students may receive either Aspire Award or GAMS, but not both • Parents' or independent student's (and spouse's) adjusted gross income must be \$36,000 or less on IRS tax form • RENEWAL CRITERIA: Same as HOPE Scholarship | \$1,500 supplement to the HOPE Scholarship • Awards to part-time students are prorated | Same as HOPE Scholarship |
| | HOPE ACCESS GRANT | Tennessee residents 1 year prior to application deadline • Must be admitted to and enrolled in at least 6 hours in a HOPE-eligible postsecondary institution within 16 months of graduation from an eligible high school • Must have an 18, 19 or 20 ACT (Composite)/860-970 SAT (Math + Critical Reading ONLY) on a national test date AND 2.75–2.99 final weighted GPA for entering freshmen graduating from eligible public or category 1, 2 or 3 private high schools ONLY AND parents' or independent student's (and spouse's) adjusted gross income must be \$36,000 or less on IRS tax form • RENEWAL CRITERIA; Students must maintain satisfactory academic progress AND continuous enrollment (Students should NEVER drop a course without talking to their financial aid office about how it may impact their HOPE Scholarship eligibility) • The HOPE Access Grant is nonrenewable after 24 attempted hours, however students may qualify for the HOPE Scholarship by meeting the renewal criteria above; contact financial aid office for details | For the initial 24 attempted hours ONLY : \$2,750 per year at an eligible four-year Tennessee postsecondary institution, \$1,750 at an eligible two-year Tennessee postsecondary institution • Awards to part-time students are prorated | Same as HOPE Scholarship |
| | WILDER-NAIFEH TECHNICAL SKILLS GRANT | Tennessee residents 1 year prior to applying • Available to all students who enroll at a Tennessee Technology Center (TTC) in a certificate or diploma program • Students must NOT , at any time, have been a prior recipient of a HOPE Scholarship • Students may be eligible for HOPE Scholarship IF initially HOPE eligible and enroll at an eligible Tennessee postsecondary institution within three years of completing a TTC diploma program • RENEWAL CRITERIA: Students must maintain satisfactory academic progress AND continuous enrollment • Until receipt of the certificate or diploma, students must reapply each academic year | Up to \$2,000 per year • Awards to part-time students are prorated | Submit FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov • Must apply by July 1 for Summer, November 1 for Fall and May 1 for Spring trimesters |
| | HOPE SCHOLARSHIP FOR NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS | Tennessee residents 1 year prior to application deadline • Minimum 25 years of age AND student's (and spouse's) adjusted gross income must be \$36,000 or less AND must be an entering freshman or have not been enrolled in a postsecondary institution for at least 2 years • First-time entering freshmen must "earn their way" into the HOPE Scholarship program by attempting 12 semester hours on their own and achieve a minimum 2.75 GPA at a HOPE-eligible postsecondary institution • RENEWAL CRITERIA: Same as HOPE Scholarship after 12 attempted hours AND maximum \$36,000 adjusted gross income • Scholarship will terminate after earning baccalaureate degree, the sum of the number of years during which the student has received a HOPE Scholarship for non-traditional students and a HOPE Scholarship equals 5 years; or 5 years have passed from initial enrollment at any postsecondary institution | Same as HOPE Scholarship • Ineligible for the Aspire Award and GAMS | Same as HOPE Scholarship |
| | DUAL ENROLLMENT GRANT | Tennessee residents 1 year prior to application deadline • Students must be a junior or senior in an eligible Tennessee high school or Tennessee homeschool program • Meet Admission for a dual enrollment program through requirements set by a HOPE-eligible postsecondary institution • Maintain 2.75 college GPA for all postsecondary courses attempted under the Dual Enrollment Grant | Up to \$300 per semester or \$600 per academic year • Enrollment as a dual enrollment student shall not count towards the 5 year enrollment limit for the HOPE Scholarship | Application available at www.CollegePaysTN.com |
| | HOPE FOSTER CHILD TUITION GRANT | Students must be eligible for the HOPE Scholarship or HOPE Access Grant • Students who were in the custody of the Department of Children Services for at least 1 year after 14th birthday • RENEWAL CRITERIA: Same as the HOPE Scholarship | Award amount varies based on level of unmet need after all financial assistance (excluding loans and work-study) has been applied | Same as HOPE Scholarship |
| | HELPING HEROES GRANT | Tennessee residents 1 year prior to application deadline • Be admitted to and enrolled in an eligible postsecondary institution • Must not have received a baccalaureate degree • Must be a veteran who received an honorable discharge and has been awarded The Iraq Campaign Medal, The Afghanistan Campaign Medal or after 9/11/01 received The Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal • RENEWAL CRITERIA: Must be enrolled in at least 6 semester hours and successfully complete each course with a non-failing grade • Additional information about this new program is available at www.CollegePaysTN.com | \$1,000 per semester for any semester during the 2008-2009 academic year which the student successfully completes 12 or more hours • Maximum of 8 full-time semesters or eligible for the grant until the 8th anniversary of being honorably discharged from military service, or earning baccalaurate degree, whichever occurs first | Application available at www.CollegePaysTN.com • Limited to 375 students per semester |
| | TENNESSEE STUDENT ASSISTANCE AWARD (TSAA) | Tennessee residents, U.S. citizens • Undergraduate students pursuing their first degree and enrolled at least half-time at an eligible Tennessee postsecondary institution • Financial need as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) • RENEWAL CRITERIA: Satisfactory academic progress, minimum half-time enrollment • Submit renewal FAFSA each year to determine financial need | Up to \$2,322 at an eligible Tennessee postsecondary institution • Up to \$4,644 at an eligible Tennessee independent postsecondary institution • Based on funding availability • Maximum 4 years eligibility • Awards to part-time students are prorated | Submit FAFSA after January 1 at www.fafsa.ed.gov • Applications processed by March 1 will receive priority • Funding for this program is limited • Students are encouraged to apply early |
| | NED MCWHERTER SCHOLARS PROGRAM | Tennessee residents, U.S. citizens • Entering freshmen enrolled full-time at an eligible Tennessee postsecondary institution • Minimum 29 ACT (Composite)/1280 SAT (Math & Critical Reading ONLY) on a national test date AND a 3.5 unweighted GPA • Extra credit for honors or advanced placement courses and leadership in extracurricular activities • Highly competitive • RENEWAL CRITERIA: 3.2 GPA, full-time enrollment, renewal application required | Up to \$6,000 per academic year (\$3,000 from the institution, \$3,000 from TSAC) • Maximum 4 years of undergraduate eligibility | Application available at www.CollegePaysTN.com • For consideration, completed application and transcript must be received by TSAC no later than February 15 |
| | ROBERT C. BYRD HONORS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM | Tennessee residents, U.S. citizens or permanent residents • Entering freshmen enrolled in any U.S. accredited institution except military academies • Must be used immediately following high school graduation or receipt of the GED • Minimum 3.5 unweighted GPA OR GED score of 570 OR 24 ACT (Composite)/1090 SAT (Math & Critical Reading ONLY) on a national test date AND a 3.0 unweighted GPA • Recipients are randomly selected from among qualified applicants • RENEWAL CRITERIA: Must maintain satisfactory academic progress and full-time enrollment, renewal application required | Award amount based on federal funding • Maximum 4 years of undergraduate eligibility | Application available at www.CollegePaysTN.com • Application deadline date: March 1 |
| | DEPENDENT CHILDREN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM | Tennessee residents, U.S. citizens • Dependent children of law enforcement officers, firemen or emergency medical technicians who were killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty while employed in Tennessee • Enrolled full-time as an undergraduate student at an eligible Tennessee postsecondary institution • Financial need as determined by FAFSA • RENEWAL CRITERIA: Satisfactory academic progress, full-time enrollment, renewal application required | Award amount based on state funding and student's direct cost coordinated with other financial aid • Maximum 4 years of undergraduate eligibility | Application available at www.CollegePaysTN.com • For consideration, completed application, required documentation and completed FAFSA must be received by TSAC no later than July 15 |
| | MINORITY TEACHING FELLOWS PROGRAM | Tennessee residents, U.S. citizens • Minority students enrolled full-time at an eligible Tennessee postsecondary institution • Entering freshmen with a 2.75 high school GPA AND at least an 18 ACT (Composite)/860 SAT (Math & Critical Reading ONLY) on a national test date • Continuing college students with a 2.5 cumulative college GPA • RENEWAL CRITERIA: 2.5 cumulative GPA, full-time enrollment, renewal application required | Up to \$5,000 per academic year • Maximum 4 years of undergraduate eligibility • Loan forgiveness has an employment obligation or it becomes a loan | Application available at www.CollegePaysTN.com • For consideration, completed application, required documentation and transcript must be received by TSAC no later than April 15 |
| | TN TEACHING SCHOLARS PROGRAM | Tennessee residents, U.S. citizens • College juniors, seniors and post-baccalaureate students admitted to a teacher education program at an eligible Tennessee postsecondary institution • Awards based on available funds, applicant rankings of GPA, test scores and teaching shortage areas • Undergraduate students must be enrolled full-time, graduate students at least half-time • Applicants cannot be licensed teachers or receive the scholarship while employed in teaching positions • RENEWAL CRITERIA: 2.75 cumulative GPA, renewal application required | Up to \$4,500 per academic year with a maximum of 4 years of eligibility • Loan forgiveness has an employment obligation or it becomes a loan | Application available at www.CollegePaysTN.com For consideration, completed application, required documentation and transcript must be received by TSAC no later than April 15 |
| | TN MATH & SCIENCE TEACHER LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM | Tennessee residents 1 year prior to application deadline • Tenured Tennessee public school teachers seeking a teaching certification in math or science or an advanced degree in math or science • Must teach 2 years of math or science in a Tennessee public school for each year of funding received | Up to \$2,000 per academic year with maximum not to exceed \$10,000 • Program of study shall be completed within 5 years beginning with first semester awarded • Loan forgiveness has an employment obligation or it becomes a loan | Application available at www.CollegePaysTN.com |
| | GRADUATE NURSING LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM | Tennessee residents, U.S. citizens • Graduate students must be accepted for enrollment at an eligible Tennessee postsecondary institution in a program leading to a master's or post-master's degree in nursing education • Students must hold an unencumbered Tennessee Registered Nurse License • Must commit to teach nursing at an eligible Tennessee postsecondary institution for 4 years • Additional information about this program is available at www.CollegePaysTN.com | Up to \$7,000 for full-time OR \$3,500 for part-time, per academic year • Eligibility maximum 4 years of full-time enrollment • Loan forgiveness has an employment obligation or it becomes a loan | Application available at www.CollegePaysTN.com |
| | RURAL HEALTH LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM | Tennessee residents 1 year prior to application deadline • Must be admitted to and enrolled in an eligible postsecondary institution • Agree to practice medicine in a health resource shortage area after becoming a TN licensed physician, osteopathic physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or licensed dentist for 1 year for every year of funding received • Sign a promissory note stipulating the cash repayment if service obligation is not met • May not accept any other financial assistance that carries with it a service obligation except for the US armed forces or national guard • Renewal Criteria: Maintain satisfactory progress in the program of study • Additional information about this new program is available at www.CollegePaysTN.com | Up to \$12,000 per academic year or the cost of tuition, mandatory fees, books, and equipment, whichever is less • Loan forgiveness has an employment obligation or it becomes a loan • Program must be completed by the spring 2013 semester | Application available at www.CollegePaysTN.com |